



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Palomar Park Fuel Reduction		
PROJECT LOCATION	Unsurveyed sections T5S, R4W MDB&M	COUNTY	Santa Cruz
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Palomar Park Fuel Reduction Project is located in Palomar Park, a suburban community in San Mateo County. Palomar Park is on the upper hillsides above Redwood City and east of I-280. The proposed treatment sites are widely spread along the relatively narrow winding streets within the neighborhood. Treatments include approximately 5 acres of roadside brush removal (primarily French broom and coyote brush), removal of approximately 15 eucalyptus trees utilizing a professional tree service, and a goat grazing site that encompasses approximately 10 hillside acres. With the exception of grazing, the majority of the work areas will be accessed directly from the paved streets. Tree removal will occur mostly from bucket trucks or climbers, with material lowered in sections to avoid collateral damage on the narrow roads to other resources including utilities and residential site improvements. No tractor skidding or off road equipment will be utilized. All woody material will be chipped and disposed of at permitted on and off-site disposal areas. Minimal or no ground disturbance is expected and erosion potential is not significant. No watercourses are located within the treatment sites.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The work proposed is a minor alteration to vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is consistent with Categorical Exemption Class 4 - Minor Alterations to Land. No activity is proposed that is listed as a limitation under CCR 15300.2 (a-f).


Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit Headquarters, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAR 22 2016

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE


Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date 3/21/16
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection